



*CITY of CALABASAS*

**TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT**

**DATE: JUNE 15, 2021**

**TO: TRAFFIC AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSIONERS**

**FROM: ROBERT YALDA, P.E., T.E., PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/ CITY ENGINEER  
TATIANA HOLDEN, P. E., SENIOR CIVIL ENGINEER**

**SUBJECT: OLD TOWN SIDEWALK REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATES**

**MEETING**

**DATE: JUNE 22, 2021**

---

**BACKGROUND:**

Old Town Calabasas, the primary retail shopping area in the City, brings a taste of the old west to modern Calabasas living. Old Town features the historic Leonis Adobe and Museum and a fine selection of shops and restaurants, all within walking distance of the Calabasas Civic Center.

In 1994, City Council adopted the Old Town Calabasas Master Plan and Design Guidelines in order to maintain the historical and cultural values of the City's "downtown", with an intent to maintain a general theme of the "Old West". The guidelines are to be followed and incorporated into future building designs and other construction projects in the area.

Shortly prior to the establishment of the master plan and design guidelines, the City installed boardwalk style sidewalks along Calabasas Road using a type of all-weather polymer slats or decking (the trade name for the product is "Trex"). Also installed were a number of hitching posts, bollards, electrical receptacles (to accommodate temporary strands of decorative lighting), trash cans, landscaping, and street lights. Unfortunately, after close to 30 years, these improvements have reached the end of their useful life, requiring continual maintenance and repair; the sidewalks, in particular, now present an unacceptable liability risk for the City.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The Old Town Calabasas Sidewalk Replacement project is one of the City's approved Capital Improvement Program (CIP) projects. A contract with Fuscoe Engineering, Inc. was approved in June 2020 and design began shortly after. The project includes the following elements:

1. Sidewalk replacement.

The existing sidewalk in Old Town Calabasas was installed with Trex composite decking material that has slowly deteriorated over the years. Many of the Trex decking components either broke or are no longer affixed to the underlying joists, becoming potential trip hazards for pedestrians. The City has replaced some segments with concrete over the years. To achieve a more durable, long-standing, and safe sidewalk, the City desires to replace all Trex decking materials with stamped concrete, and replace all existing concrete sidewalk sections as well, to create a uniform surface texture and appearance throughout Old Town Calabasas.

2. Installation of new street lights.

The antiquated street lights, with parts that are no longer available in the market (and therefore nearly impossible to maintain), will be replaced with those powered with LEDs. Notwithstanding the use of contemporary high-efficiency and low-cost electrical components, the new street lights will retain the Old West design.

3. Upgrade of Landscaping features.

The project will install new trees; replace trash receptacles, benches, fencing, bollards, traffic sign posts, and planter boxes. Trees near driveways and crosswalks will be removed to improve line of sight.

4. In-pavement flashing crosswalks.

Installation of in-pavement flashers is proposed at all four crosswalk locations. They will provide needed additional safety for pedestrians and will also link the Park-and-Ride facility with Old Town destinations. Crosswalk ramps will be replaced per ADA standards.

The proposed project design elements were presented to Historic Preservation Commission on June 2, 2021. Commissioners unanimously accepted presented design elements and provided a few comments on aesthetics of fencing and benches, and street lighting at crosswalk locations. Their comments were forwarded to the engineering consultant.

Following the TTC meeting, Fuscoe will be incorporating all City comments into the design, creating a final set of plans, specifications and estimate to advertise the project for construction. The anticipated construction start is fall 2021.

**FISCAL IMPACT / SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Funding for the Old Town Sidewalk Improvement project is provided by the Ad Valorem Account.

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

This is an informational item but the commissioners are encouraged to provide the final level design comments.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Exhibit A: Project layout